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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 05998 280057Z

21
ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 /039 W
---------- 050100
R 280052Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8270

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO
SUBJECT: UNESCO MEETING OF PRIVATE EXPERTS ON THE RESTITUTION OF WORKS OF ART; MARCH 29-APRIL 3; CAIRO, EGYPT

REF: O'BRIEN-MAXIM TELCON OF FEBRUARY 26

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTELCON, RAIDL, PROJECT OFFICER FOR SUBJECT MEETING IN UNESCO'S DIVISION OF MUSEUMS AND STANDARDS, TOLD DELOFF THAT ENVISIONED PARTICIPANTS LIMITED TO PRIVATE EXPERTS FROM COUNTRIES DEEMED MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN CENTRAL ISSUE OF MEETING. HOWEVER, SHE ADVISED IN CONFIDENCE THAT SHE AND GERARD BOLLA, DEPUTY ADG OF SHC SECTOR, ARE CONSIDERING A RECOMMENDATION THAT MEETING BE POSTPONED DUE TO BUDGETARY RESTRICTIONS.

2. US COULD REQUEST THAT IT BE.INVITED TO ATTEND AS AN OBSERVER AT MEETING BUT SECRETARIAT HAD INVITED FOLLOWING COUNTRIES WHICH DEEMED MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED "PROTAGONISTS": BELGIUM, FRANCE, GREECE, NETHERLANDS, POLAND, SWEDEN, UK; AND FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: EGYPT, INDONESIA, MEXICO, NIGERIA, SENEGAL, ZAIRE.

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3. RAIDL DESCRIBED MEETING'S OBJECTIVE AND FUNCTION AS

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VERY MUCH A "FIRST EXCHANGE OF VIEWS" RESULTING IN "AT
MOST" A DOCUMENT SKETCHING OUT POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION
FOR UNESCO TO TAKE WITH REGARD TO THE RESTITUTION OF
WORKS OF ART. INDEED, SECRETARIAT ADMITTEDLY UNCERTAIN
AS TO HOW TO PROCEED ON AN ISSUE OF SUCH SENSITIVITY.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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